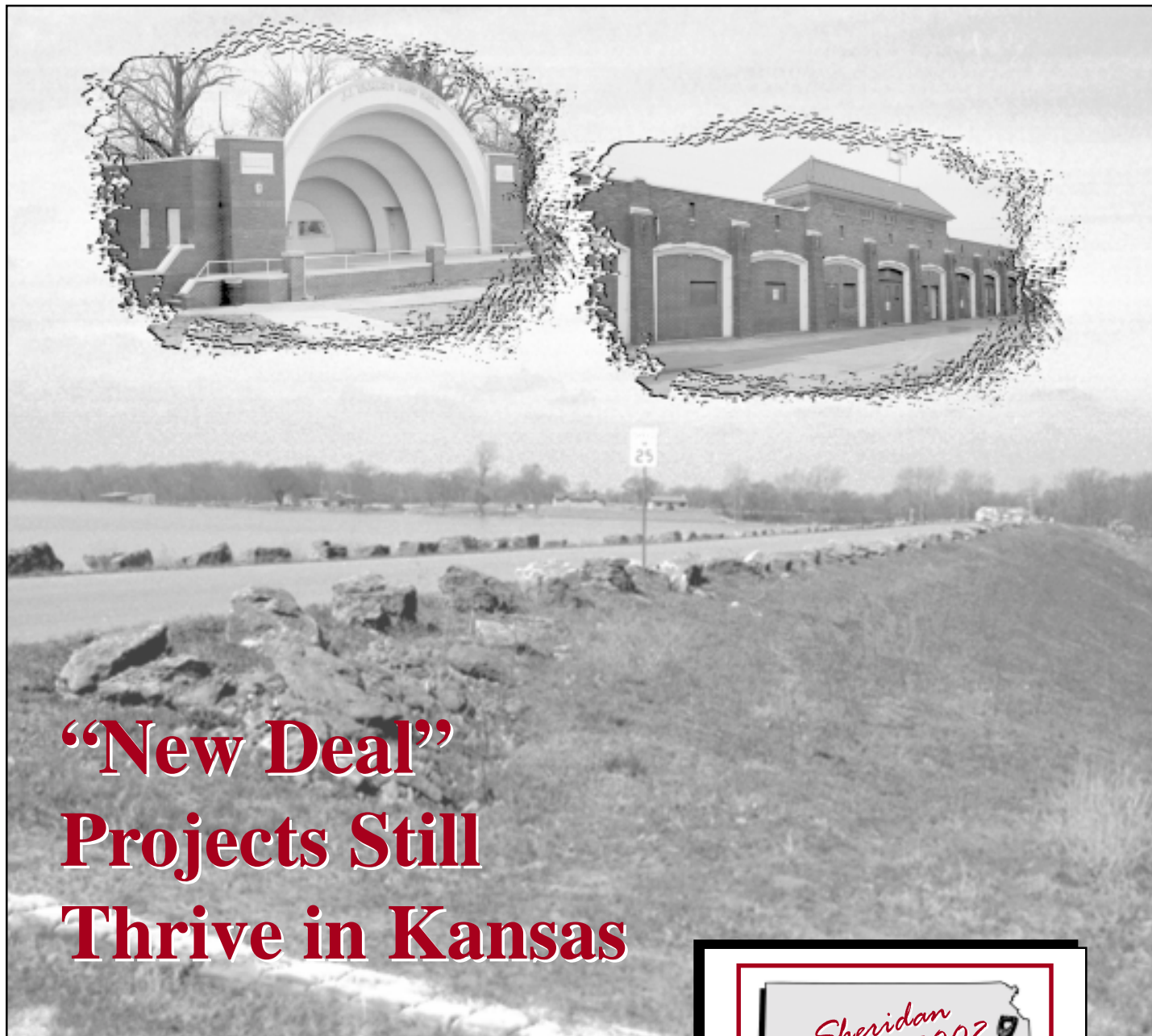


Kansas Preservation

Newsletter of the Cultural Resources Division ▪ Kansas State Historical Society



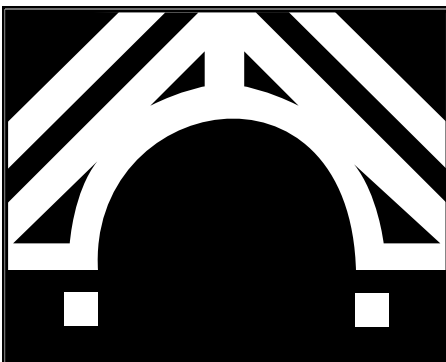
“New Deal” Projects Still Thrive in Kansas

In the 1930s and 1940s “New Deal” construction helped the nation recover from the Great Depression by creating jobs and restoring hope. Today, many of these projects are still Kansas landmarks.

Article on page 7



**Also in this issue, information about
the annual KATP field school.**



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An aerial view of the 1990 excavations at the Cottonwood Ranch site. The block excavation is visible to the right of the barn in the middle of the picture.

2002 KATP Offers Something for Everyone

The 2002 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school has it all—excavations of both a prehistoric and a historic site, archeological site survey, artifact processing laboratory, soil flotation, classes for college credit, and a variety of associated programs! From June 1 through 16, 2002, participants can sample the entire range of archeological field activities at by far the lowest price we know of for a comparable experience.

Excavations will concentrate on two excellent Sheridan County sites that have been previously tested by KATP crews (see *Kansas Preservation*

13[4]:1-4): the prehistoric Albert Bell site (14SD305) on Museum Creek between Studley and Hoxie and the historic Cottonwood Ranch (14SD327) at Studley. In June 1990, 180 Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) members, supervised by Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) archeologists, inves-

tigated portions of these sites. Now, 12 years later, they have been invited back to do additional work.

Albert Bell Site

The Albert Bell site is situated in a pasture that has never been cultivated but has been and continues to be damaged by relic collectors. The 1990 excavations of two rectangular, semi-subterranean earth

lodges here confirmed that the site was part of the Upper Republican cultural complex of the Middle Ceramic period, which dates between A.D. 900 and 1500.

Archeomagnetic samples from the burned earth of the hearth in one house yielded a date of A.D. 1375 +/- 50. The people who lived here were small-scale farmers who also hunted and gathered wild foods. Bison was the most important protein source, and corn was the major garden crop. Two shallow basins, but no deep underground storage



Excavations will concentrate on two excellent Sheridan County sites: the prehistoric Albert Bell site on Museum Creek between Studley and Hoxie and the historic Cottonwood Ranch at Studley.



(Left) The Cottonwood Ranch house and outbuildings are constructed of native limestone that was quarried on the property.



(Below) The ranch now has eight merino sheep, the breed originally raised at the ranch by the Pratt family. (These two photos were provided by Bob Hoard.)

pits, were encountered at the site.

Artifacts recovered in 1990 included Upper Republican potsherds, a clay pipe, arrow points, knives, and other stone tools, fired clay daub or plaster, mussel shell, and animal bone fragments. Soil flotation samples contained small chert flakes, bone fragments, charcoal pieces, and seeds, including prehistoric maize.

In 2002 a third house structure and midden area are targeted for investigation and a detailed topographic map will be produced.

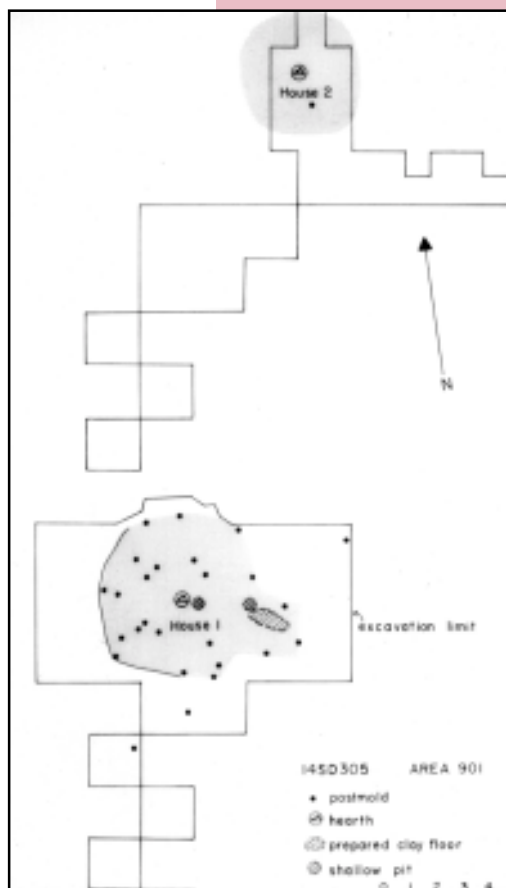
The KAA and KSHS, joint sponsors of the KATP since 1975, are raising \$5,000 to provide a stipend for a researcher to participate in fieldwork and prepare a report of findings that will incorporate both 1990 and 2002 seasons of work at the site. The KAA is advertising this position, and interested individuals should contact Virginia Wulfkuhle at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 255 or wulfkuhle@kshs.org.

Excavations at Cottonwood Ranch

The Cottonwood Ranch was established in 1885 by John Fenton Pratt, one of several Pratts who immigrated to Sheridan County from England during the late 1870s and early 1880s. The ranch operation focused on sheep production until 1902, then for the next eight decades the site served as a residence. In 1982 the house, outbuildings, a spring, and pasture land on a 23-acre parcel of the original ranch were acquired by the KSHS for preservation and interpretive purposes.

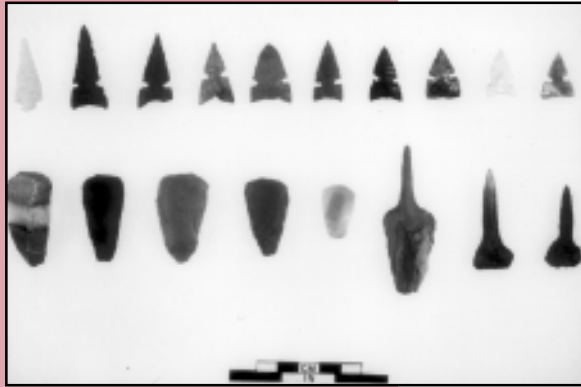
The 1990 excavations concentrated on exposing ruins of an outbuilding that stood east of the existing barns from about 1890 until 1911. All that remained of the structure were a few foundation stones and small rock rubble. Artifacts included fragments of beer bottles, sherds of stoneware crocks, nails, barrel hoops, and other similar artifacts. Limited excavations around the ranch house itself resulted in good information about the original ground surface of the front yard.

The 2002 work will continue a general program of research related to stabilization, restoration, reconstruction, and interpretation of the State Historic Site. Definition of the ice house, a 14 x 16-foot structure once situated west of the barns and house, is the top priority. Opportunities to investigate other ranch features and related sites abound.



Site map of the units excavated and house features uncovered in 1990 excavations at the Albert Bell site.

See page 14 for registration information!



A selection of stone arrow points, scrapers, and drills recovered during the 1990 excavations at the Albert Bell site.



The Albert Bell site is located in a picturesque pasture on Museum Creek. (Photo by Bob Hoard.)



Mapping the block excavation at Cottonwood Ranch in 1990. The concentration of small rock rubble defined the limits of the outbuilding.

KATP Field School Offers Classes and Hands-on Learning Opportunities

The field school is fortunate to have secured Morland High School for the project headquarters. This building has facilities for check-in, classes, an artifact processing laboratory, associated programs, showers, and floor camping in the gym. Tent camping will be allowed on the school grounds.

The field laboratory at the Morland High School will process artifacts recovered by the excavation and survey crews. The lab is an excellent way for beginners to become acquainted with the variety of artifacts and other materials recovered during archaeological excavations and for experienced participants to practice sorting, cataloguing, and preliminary analysis.

Visitors are always welcome at the KATP. There will be opportunities for the public to tour the excavation sites and lab, join in various informal educational presentations and social gatherings, and attend a Collectors Night and two resume's where project accomplishments are summarized. A special treat for this year's participants will be the Cottonwood Ranch Cowboy Gathering held on June 8-9. A full schedule of associated programs will be posted at the project headquarters in Morland, at the Cottonwood Ranch, and on the KSHS web site at www.kshs.org.

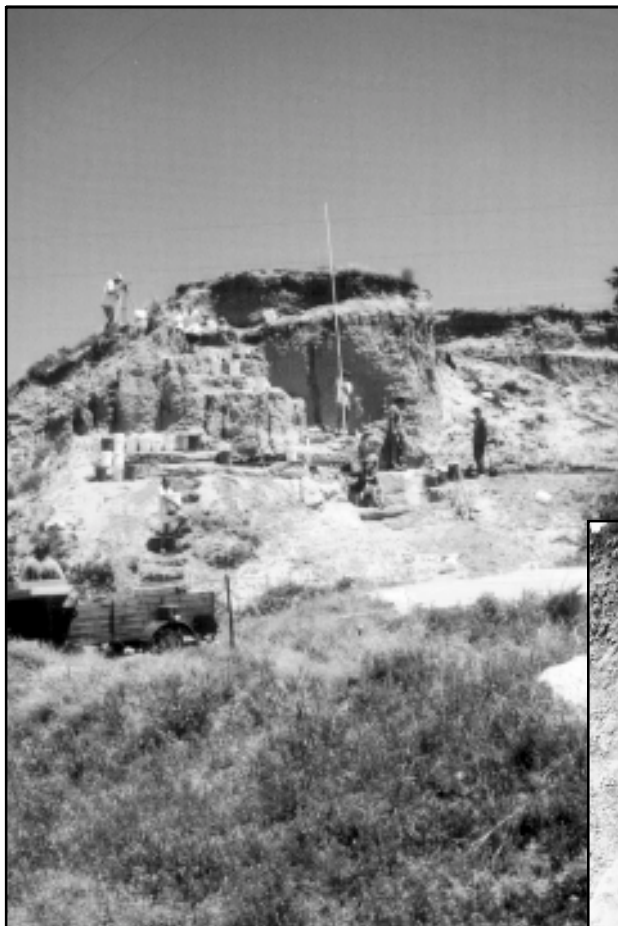
A full schedule of associated programs will be posted at the project headquarters in Morland, at the Cottonwood Ranch, and on the KSHS web site at www.kshs.org.

Classes, consisting of 20 hours of classroom and/or hands-on activity, are offered for one hour of college credit through Emporia State University. This option is often attractive for teachers seeking re-certification. Classes are Archeological Site Survey (taught by Martin Stein), Basic Archeological Excavation (taught by Robert Hoard), Mapping (taught by Will Banks), Archeological Fieldwork, and Historic Architecture (taught by Christy Davis). Class schedules and instructions for enrollment for college credit are included in the registration packet.

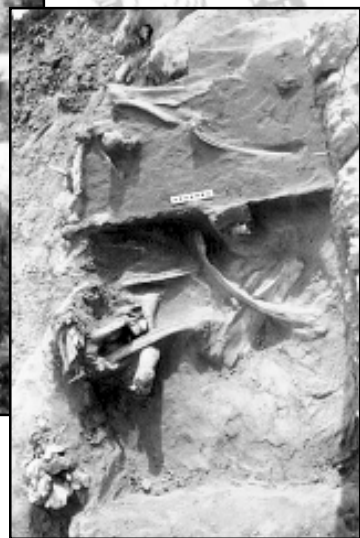
The classes are open to all KATP field school participants, whether or not they are signed up for college credit or the KAA certification program. The KSHS and the KAA conduct a certification program for KAA members in the basic skills and techniques of Plains archeology. Certification involves a combination of hands-on instruction, experience, and formal classes; training sessions take place primarily at KATP events. There are seven specific categories of instruction covering archeological site surveying, excavation procedures, laboratory techniques, and public education efforts. After fulfilling the requirements of a category, members are certified as proficient in particular skills. Certification is not a quick process, usually taking several years to complete a category, although members may work on several categories at the same time.

***See page 14 for registration information!
Applications are due May 3, 2002.***

Norton Bone Bed Reveals Wealth of Insights & Bison Remains



The KU field crew is challenged by the rugged terrain and complex nature of bone bed excavations at the Norton Bone Bed site in 1993.



Why dig up bison bones? Why isn't one comparative bison skeleton enough? What can we learn about prehistoric people from studying bison bones? Why study modern bison carcasses? What is taphonomy anyway?

University of Kansas (KU) students have been considering the answers to such questions during field work in western Kansas, the Texas Panhandle, and western Oklahoma, starting in 1992 and continuing to the present. One of the sites under investigation is the Norton Bone Bed (14SC6) near Scott City, Kansas, which is featured in the Kansas Archeology Week poster and brochure. This site is of late Paleoindian age and dates to about 9,000 years ago. It is the

first Paleoindian bison kill/butchery site to be investigated in western Kansas since the 12 Mile Creek site in Logan County was studied in 1895.

Excavations at the Norton Bone Bed began in May 1992. The site came to my attention through the efforts of Charlie Norton of Leoti, who recognized its significance and was instrumental in making research there possible.

The bone bed was first exposed in the mid-1970s as a result of sand and gravel quarry operations. How much of the bone bed was lost due to quarry activity and subsequent erosion is unknown, but present evidence indicates that the deposit is extensive, covering an area of at least 10 x 22 meters (33 x 72 feet). The bones occur at the base and in the fill of an ancient gully. There is a good possibility that a camp or processing area occurs on a margin of the gully.

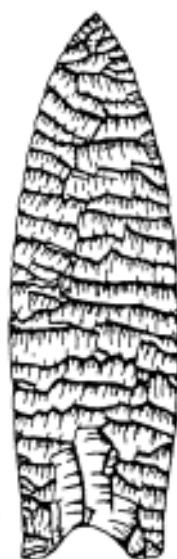
A concentration of bison bones was exposed in the walls of the quarry at depths from 1 to 3.5 meters (3.3 to 11.5 feet) below the original surface, but spoil dirt had been deposited on top of the area.

The work of the KU students included the removal of this spoil dirt and the partial excavation of about 15, 1-meter squares. The excavation had to be stepped down to allow access to the deepest part of the bone bed.

More than 1,600 bison bones were mapped and recorded in place, including information on side up, orientation, dip, and condition of pieces. This information helps interpret the site's complex formation history, including periods of weathering, movement, and reburial. The minimum number of bison represented is eight, although the final number of individuals is expected to increase significantly. Very few intact teeth of young individuals have been recovered, and no seasonal estimate from eruption and wear has been made. In addition to bison, at least one antelope was represented in the bone bed.

Diagnostic stone artifacts include a complete quartzite lanceolate (leaf-shaped) point with oblique parallel flaking, a concave base, and a reworked blade, giving it a stemmed appearance.

This article was contributed by Jack L. Hofman, professor of anthropology, University of Kansas. Professor Hofman conducts archeological fieldwork in western Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas with an emphasis on the investigation of Paleoindian life ways.



Alibates



Quartzite



**Niobrara
Jasper**

(Left) KU students water screen matrix from the Norton Bone Bed deposit to recover small bone fragments and stone flakes.

(Above) Drawings of Late Paleoindian projectile points recovered from 14SC6.

The specimen shares attributes with both the Allen and Dalton projectile point types, characteristic of the late Paleoindian or early Archaic period. A square-stemmed point base with ground edges from another late Paleoindian complex type (Cody) was also recovered. Whether these specimens reflect one or multiple episodes of site utilization remains to be determined.

Other stone artifacts include two small fragments of spear points, two scrapers, a flake knife, a small flake tool, and several hundred flakes, mostly from maintenance and resharpening of tools. The lithic materials used represent sources from western Kansas, eastern Colorado, central Texas, and perhaps other areas. While most of the flakes are local Niobrara jasper, the projectile points and other tools are made of more exotic materials.

Soil samples were collected and used to date the soil that formed over the gully and bone bed. The age of this soil provided a minimum age for the filling of the gully and so for the bone bed buried in the gully floor: 1,760 +/- 60 before present (B.P.). The single radiocarbon age on collagen from a bison leg bone yielded an age of 9,080 +/- 60 years B.P.

Details of how the animals were killed remain obscure. It is possible that the animals were cornered at the head of this deep, steep-walled arroyo or that they

were herded into it from above. The variable weathering on bone surfaces, the presence of articulated skeletal units on the gully slope, and the differentially weathered and mostly disarticulated bones at the base of the gully provide some important clues. Documenting the history of weathering and movement of the skeletal remains will enable us to outline some of the events that occurred,

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were killed remain obscure.
It is possible that the animals
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herded into it from above.*

perhaps to define areas where the kill and butchering took place, and assess how the bone deposit has been modified by natural factors. Although we are confident that people were involved in the killing and butchering of these bison, the details remain to be determined.

There is little or nothing about the archeological record of western Kansas

or elsewhere that is “self-evident.” In order to accurately interpret the bones, stones, charcoal, and other materials from these sites, we must develop our analytical skills and tools. Bison bone bed research has advanced significantly during the past 30 years, including the development of taphonomic analysis.

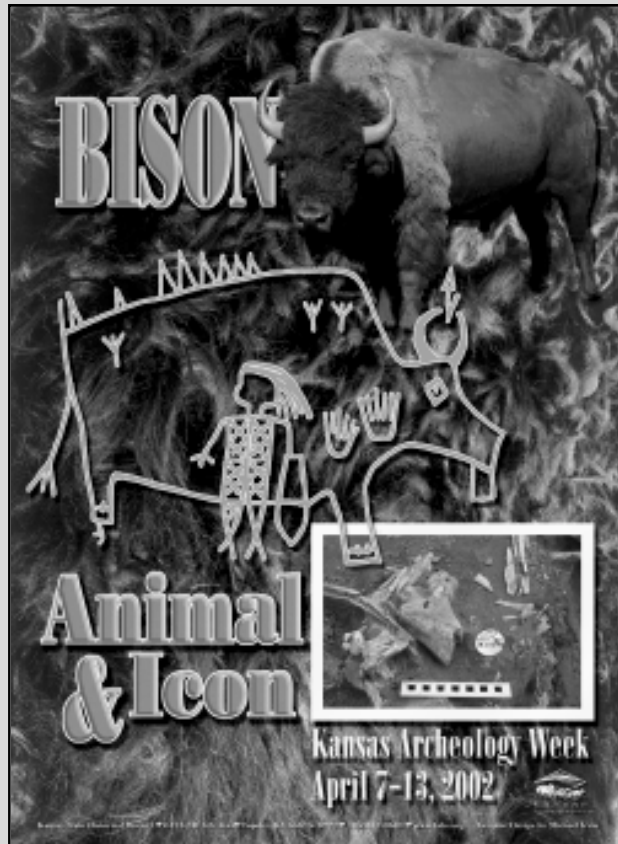
Taphonomy is the study of the processes affecting the carcasses and bones between the time of death and preservation. Many human and non-human factors modify carcasses and bones after a kill, and each factor leaves additional and specific kinds of information that can help us explain and interpret what has happened since the bison were killed.

When working with prehistoric bison bones, it is critical that we do more than simply identify the bones as to species and element. The bones can inform us about the size of herds, the sex and age composition, the season of a death or kill event, the processes that have influenced preservation and modification of the bones, and bison evolution and ecology. The way bison carcasses are utilized, the portions butchered or removed, the time of year, and the intensity of processing all provide information about the way human groups were organized, their economic status, and their mobility or movement patterns.

Continued on page 13

Bison Being Served Up for 2002 Kansas Archeology Week Celebration

Buffalo nickels, buffalo wallows, buffalo jumps, buffalo skulls, buffalo robes, white buffalo, William "Buffalo Bill" Cody, Charles Jesse "Buffalo" Jones, buffalo burgers—without much effort most of us can make a long list of images inspired by the bison. Depicted in ancient Native American rock art and continuing to be a motif in popular culture, art, and commerce, it can be argued that the state animal of Kansas is the symbol of the American West, if not all of North America.



The 2002 Kansas Archeology Week Poster

"Bison: Animal and Icon" is the theme of Kansas Archeology Week, April 7-13, 2002. The poster and its accompanying brochure show the living animal, as well as representations by American Indians and early explorers. The materials emphasize how archeological research on bison bone beds, combined with data from other sciences, can contribute to the understanding of past human behavior (see article by Jack Hofman beginning on page 4 of this issue).

Kansas Archeology Week invites Kansans to join archeologists in a partnership, discovering connections to the past and sharing responsibility for preserving the archeological heritage of the state. A calendar of activities for the Kansas Archeology Week season (March through May 2002) will be posted on the KSHS web page at www.kshs.org/resource/archeolo.htm.

Events already being planned by KSHS archeologists are a display in the Spotlight Case of the Kansas Museum of History and an artifact identification and tour day at the Kansas History Center on Saturday, April 6. The Flint Hills Archaeological Conference is scheduled for April 12-13 in Manhattan, and the Kansas Anthropological Association Annual Meeting will be April 20 in Kanapolis.

Major funding for Kansas Archeology Week is provided by the Kansas State Historical Society; Emma Balsiger Foundation; National Park Service Midwest Archeological Center; U.S. Bureau of Reclamation;

Kansas Anthropological Association; Natural Resources Conservation Service; Kansas State University Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work; Archaeological Association of South Central Kansas; Professional Archaeologists of Kansas; University of Kansas Museum of Anthropology; and the Kansas City Archaeological Society.

Graphic designer Michael Irvin created the poster and brochure. Ramona J. Willits contributed text. Dr. Jack L. Hofman and Jeannette Blackmar of the University of Kansas provided background information and a number of illustrations. Wayne Copp of Auburn, Kansas, allowed photo-documentation of his bison herd by KSHS photographer Craig Cooper. Kansas Anthropological Association volunteers assembled poster packets on January 26 for mailing. Materials were distributed to Kansas schools (librarians and teachers of social studies, history, geography, and gifted students), libraries, museums, historical and genealogical societies, county extension agents, selected National Resource Conservation Service personnel, and members of the Kansas Anthropological Association, Kansas Council for the Social Studies, Kansas Museums Association, Professional Archaeologists of Kansas, and other related organizations.

Copies of the poster and brochure can be requested from Virginia A. Wulfskuhle at the KSHS, 6425 SW 6th Ave., Topeka, KS 66614-1099; (785) 272-8681 Ext. 255; or vwulfskuhle@kshs.org. Unfolded copies of the poster can be obtained in person at the Cultural Resources Division office at no charge or for \$2 by mail.

The New Deal in Kansas

The Great Depression was a bleak time for the United States. People from all walks of life and in all parts of the country felt the effects of the nation's dire economic conditions. Over the course of a decade (1933-1943) state and federal government agencies assisted the nation by creating programs that provided work for the unemployed and that funded public improvement projects.

Like the rest of the nation, the Kansas economy was severely hurt by the unemployment, bank closures, and business failures that followed the stock market crash of 1929. The subsequent drought of the 1930s further impacted the Kansas economy, which was largely dependent upon agricultural production. From 1934 through 1937, as the Great Depression worsened, the western part of the state became a Dust Bowl. Along with its urban workers, the state's farmers faced tough times.

Prior to the Depression, different combinations of private and public funding provided assistance to the poor in Kansas. Managed at the county level, the system was inefficient and varied. In rural Kansas counties, the county clerk administered relief efforts. Some areas employed a Commissioner of the Poor, while others delegated relief work to private organizations like the American Red Cross. Beginning in 1924, counties obtained funding for relief efforts through property tax assessments. However, the Depression forced the State of Kansas to lower the property tax rate in the early 1930s, thereby reducing the money available to fund county relief programs. By 1932, the counties needed additional financial assistance in order to sustain the local populace.

In July 1932, nearly three years after the onset of the Depression, President Herbert Hoover signed the Emergency



Figure 1 – Lobby, Herington Post Office, PWA 1935, Herington, Dickinson County.

At the end of his first 100 days in office Roosevelt had created an “alphabet soup” of New Deal programs that provided the nation with millions of dollars for public improvement projects and job creation.

Relief and Construction Act. This limited measure provided federal loans to the states to finance day labor and the construction of public works. To oversee state relief efforts and to manage these new funds, the State of Kansas established the Kansas Federal Relief Committee. The state's initial allotment for one month in the fall of 1932 was \$450,000.

Following his inauguration in March 1933, President Franklin Roosevelt ushered in a new era of hope. At the end of his first 100 days in office Roosevelt had created an “alphabet soup” of New Deal programs that provided the nation with millions of dollars for public improvement projects and job creation.

In accordance with the federal initiatives, state governments established agencies to identify and select worthy projects and to manage the work relief rolls. In Kansas the Kansas Federal Relief Committee

changed its name to the Kansas Emergency Relief Committee (KERC) to fulfill this function. The KERC also administered and distributed state relief funds. Millions of unemployed workers nationwide began constructing government buildings, libraries, schools, auditoriums, parks, waterworks, dams, roads and other public projects, which dotted the American landscape. Small communities and large benefitted from improved infrastructure, educational buildings, and recreational facilities. Public buildings in most communities were refurbished and modernized, if not replaced by grand new structures.

Survey of New Deal Resources

In 2001, the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) contracted Historic Pres-

ervation Services (HPS) of Kansas City to research the history and impact of New Deal programs in Kansas. HPS staff conducted general research about state and federal relief programs at repositories including the KSHS archives in Topeka; the Spencer Library at the University of Kansas in Lawrence; and the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Subsequently, HPS surveyed the specific results of the New Deal and KERC programs in two randomly selected Kansas counties, Dickinson and Crawford. The project culminated with the preparation of a National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Submission for *New Deal Resources of Kansas* and a National Register nomination for the *Abilene City Park Historic District*.

Historic Resources of the New Deal

The surveys of Crawford and Dickinson counties revealed the extent to which the New Deal programs affected the complexion of Kansas communities. While these projects were wide ranging in scope and form, all used funds or labor from one of the myriad of federal New Deal agencies or the KERC. Many of the resources surveyed embody the distinctive architectural styling associated with this era. These characteristics include the use of hand labor and an emphasis on craftsmanship, local building materials and construction methods, the use of standardized building plans, and local adaptations of popular architectural styles, in particular Craftsman, Art Deco and Moderne. Formal civic buildings were often designed with a blend of Beaux-Arts and Moderne styling, often referred to as PWA Modern, while park buildings typically embraced elements of Craftsman styling and folk vernacular construction, sometimes called Government Rustic. Constructed by public agencies for the public, these resources generally continue to serve their intended functions.

Civic resources included all construction related to the operation of municipal, county/regional, or federal government. Properties might include grand public structures, such as courthouses,

This article was prepared by Elizabeth Rosin of Historic Preservation Services under contract to the Kansas State Historical Society. The historical information was originally researched and compiled for the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form on the New Deal Resources of Kansas with the assistance of historian Jon Taylor. All photos are by Elizabeth Rosin.



Figure 3 – Waterworks (Black & Veatch Engineers, Kansas City), PWA 1935-36, Pittsburg, Crawford County.

city halls, police and/or fire stations, and post offices with high style expressions of Classical and/or Moderne architecture. Smaller towns included more moderate examples of these building types. Many of these properties included murals or other works of art funded through the New Deal programs. The National Register-listed post office in Herington was constructed with PWA funds and includes a mural by H. Louis Freund entitled “Arrival of the First Train in Herington in 1885” (Figure 1). More utilitarian buildings of masonry construction with minimal architectural styling included jails (Figure 2), public works buildings, armories and other military facilities. Many civic buildings were constructed during this period, and often replaced civic structures erected in the late-19th century. Other civic buildings were remodeled or rehabilitated using New Deal funds.

Resources related to **public utilities** included buildings and structures constructed to improve the general living conditions of the local community. These utilitarian, engineered facilities included waterworks (Figure 3), power and heating plants, storm sewers and sewage treatment plants, sanitary privies, and telephone systems. An emphasis was placed

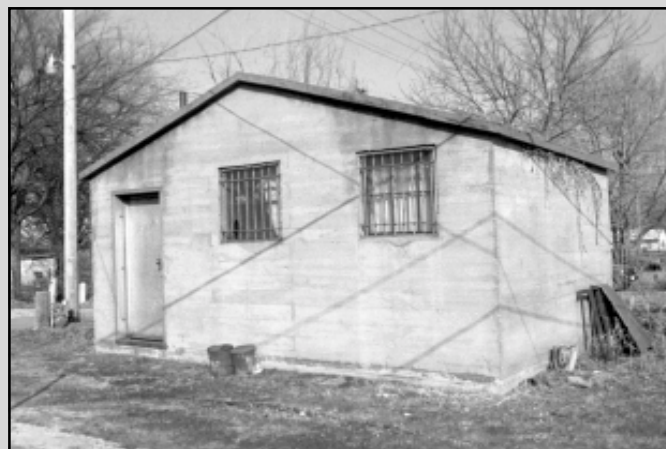


Figure 2 – City Jail, CWA 1933-34, Chapman, Dickinson County.

New Deal projects are considered in eight categories:

Civic Resources

Public Utilities

Educational Facilities

Social & Recreational Facilities

Institutional & Social Welfare Facilities

Transportation-related Systems & Structures

Conservation-related Projects

Cultural Landscape Elements

on extending basic services, such as electricity and telephone service, to rural areas and to improving sanitary conditions and reducing the risk of disease. The majority of these resources were of concrete or masonry construction with little, if any, stylized ornament.

Where distances were too great to extend water lines to rural areas, New Deal programs constructed sanitary privies for individual property owners. These were generally small square or rectangular buildings of wood frame construction (although some might be masonry) with a shed or gable roof. A square window was a distinctive feature of the New Deal privies.

School buildings, libraries, museums and auditoriums were typical of **educational** facilities erected through the New Deal programs. Public school buildings and college buildings were constructed, added on to, or remodeled in many communities in an effort to modernize facilities and enhance educational opportunities. Constructed in 1942 with WPA funds, the Garfield School in Abilene is an excellent example of Moderne architecture (*Figure 4*). Combination auditorium/gymnasiums were frequently constructed, usually in association with or adjacent to school buildings, and typically served the needs of the community as well as those of the specific school. Many educational buildings and building additions included restrained elements of Moderne styling, such as the gymnasium/auditorium addition to the public school in Hope (*Figure 5*). Often these elements were limited to decorative cast stone medallions with stylized imagery or lettering. Additions usually matched the original building in materials (typically brick) and often in styling. New Deal work at schools also included the construction or enhancement of related athletic and maintenance facilities, such as the stadium at Roosevelt Middle School in Pittsburg (*Figure 6*) or the bus garage in McCune.

Social and recreational facilities constructed with New Deal funds and labor included large and small parks (municipal, county and state) often with band shells (*Figure 7*), picnic facilities (shelters, tables and benches, picnic ovens), toilet facilities and/or camp grounds; fairgrounds; bathhouses and swimming pools; and athletic fields with stadiums and field houses (*Figure 8*). The configuration of groups of buildings,



(Top) *Figure 4 – Garfield School (Joseph Radotinsky, Kansas City, with Murray & Cayton, Abilene), WPA 1942, Abilene, Dickinson County.*

(Left) *Figure 5 – Hope Public School, 1912 with 1936 WPA Addition, Hope, Dickinson County.*

paths and/or roads (cultural landscape) is often key to the significance and integrity of resources in this category. The styling of these resources varied from rustic to Moderne and, like other resource types, these facilities were generally constructed in a manner that was more labor intensive than might otherwise be typical. For instance, while fairground barns were typically unornamented structures resting on concrete footings, New Deal edifices, such as those in Crawford County (*Figure 9*), often rested on stone foundations. Likewise, picnic facilities in public parks were constructed of concrete and stone rather than of wood. (*Figure 10*)

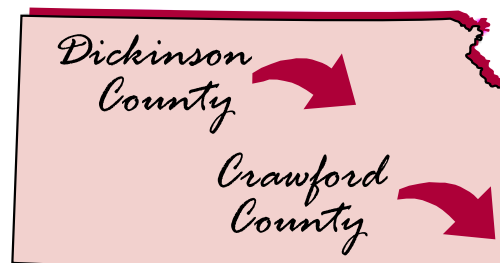
Institutional buildings and **social welfare** projects included hospitals, county poor farms and welfare offices, housing projects, and work camp buildings and structures. Hospitals were large permanent buildings whose construction and design were similar to that described above for civic buildings. Facilities for transient workers, whether through the Resettlement Act or works programs such as the Civilian Conservation Corps, were

designed to be temporary, although concrete slab foundations and wood frame construction were typical. In some locations railroad boxcars provided housing for transient groups. The buildings at these complexes were often barracks-like

in nature and, when found in context, were typically arranged in military-like compounds. While it is unlikely that any of the New Deal institutional housing remains extant, it is very possible that the

these camps remain as archaeological sites.

Transportation-related systems and structures might include airport facilities (runways and hangars); highway, street and sidewalk projects; and bridges. Additional highway-related infrastructure included road paving and culvert and bridge construction. This work was intended to raise the populace out of the mud of the rural back roads and to provide access to larger markets for goods and services. These resources were utilitarian in design. Concrete was the typical paving material and was also used for bridges, while steel typically framed and clad larger structures.





(Top) Figure 6 – Athletic Stadium, WPA 1940, Theodore Roosevelt Middle School, Pittsburg, Crawford County.

(Right) Figure 7 – Bandshell, WPA 1936-37, Lincoln Park, Pittsburg, Crawford County.

(Below) Figure 8 – Ray Tripp Field House, WPA 1935, Herington, Dickinson County.



Conservation-related properties were typically large resources, such as lakes, dams and reservoirs (Figure 11); wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries; forestry stations; reforestation projects; shelterbelts, terraces, contour lines and pasture furrows. These projects aimed to protect natural resources and reclaim farmlands lost during the Dust Bowl. For instance, in southeastern Kansas extensive efforts were made to reclaim land violated by strip mining. Thousands of acres of strip mine pits were partially filled, planted with trees, and stocked with fish to create recreational parkland. Likewise, in southcentral Kansas shelterbelts planted on over 16,000 acres of farmland began to reverse the effects of the Dust Bowl within three years.

New Deal projects that affected **cultural landscape** elements included everything from construction of sidewalks,

curbs and gutters to designed parks, fairgrounds and cemeteries, and reforestation and reclamation projects. These projects included informal natural landscapes as well as highly formal arrangements of paths and structures. In addition to the conservation-related resources described above, landscape elements might include entrances, walls or fences and/or a designed network of paths or roads that in some cases encircled a natural or manmade body of water. Additional efforts included grading, clearing or planting trees, and other landscaping efforts.

The New Deal in Crawford County

Crawford County, in southeastern Kansas, was very poor during the 1930s. Its economy was based on mining, an industry that suffered significantly before

and after the Depression. Crawford County received a significant share of New Deal funds and many projects were constructed. However, since then at least 14 of these resources have been demolished.

Only 26 remained extant, including the multi-building county fair ground complex east of Girard. Most notably, a number of schools in small crossroads mining camp towns that were built or remodeled using New Deal funds have long since vanished along with their associated communities. Also notable was the presence of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in Crawford County. Camps located near Farlington and Frontenac were respon-

sible for improving two county parks, one of which was reclaimed from former strip mining pits in the late-1920s. Other resources extant in Crawford County include city parks, athletic stadiums, a water treatment plant, schools, and civic buildings.

The New Deal in Dickinson County

The economy of Dickinson County, although agriculturally based, was much more stable during the Depression than was that of Crawford County. The county received a smaller share of New Deal funds but retains a much higher percentage of those resources than does Crawford County. Only two improvements could not be located – a school addition in Manchester and a remodeled school in Solomon. The 20 extant New Deal-era resources in Dickinson County include schools, parks, swimming pools and bathhouses, a jail, and a post office with a mural. These remaining resources are generally well cared for and typically continue to serve their original functions.

The Abilene City Park, nominated to the National Register as part of this project, wonderfully illustrates how one community took advantage of the many programs available during this period. Like many communities nationwide, the City of Abilene made extensive use of



Figure 9 – Animal Barns, Crawford County Fair Grounds, WPA 1936, Girard Vicinity, Crawford County.



(Above) Figure 10 – Picnic Table and Benches, City Park, WPA 1937, Abilene, Dickinson County.



(Left) Figure 11 – Dam (Paulette & Wilson Engineers, Salina), Crawford County State Park Number 2, CCC 1934-38, Farlington Vicinity, Crawford County.

New Deal funds (Civil Works Administration, KEREC, Public Works Administration, and Works Progress Administration) between 1934 and 1939 to improve the existing fairgrounds and to develop the remainder of the property as a municipal park. In the spirit of the New Deal, the project was undertaken as a labor-intensive effort that would employ a large number of individuals currently receiving public relief. Following its construction the park would provide the community with an enduring public amenity.

During a presentation to the Abilene Rotary Club on June 4, 1938, Dr. Bruce Thayer, a member of the City Park Board, urged the community to take advantage of available public funding to make the desired park improvements. He noted that the proposed improvements could be maintained using existing city equipment, this was not a project that would drain future resources from the already stretched city budget, and it would provide an on-going source of pride to the community.

The city hired civil engineers

Paulette and Wilson of Salina to design the park infrastructure. A local architectural firm, Murray and Cayton, designed the buildings, and another local architect, Charles Brainard, laid out the formal garden.

Work included grading the land; installing water and sewer lines; and

building roads, paths, curbs and gutters; as well as a series of larger amenities including a bandshell, fair ground stadium, swimming pool and bathhouse, formal garden, picnic amenities, and a playground. (The original bandshell burned in 1992 and was replaced by a new structure in the late 1990s.)

The completed park represented the ideals of park planning and design during this period, offering both active and passive recreation opportunities. Of the resources surveyed in both counties, the Abilene park was singular both in the quantity and quality of New Deal construction it originally received and in its retention of the vast majority of those elements, including buildings and cultural landscape features.

Conclusion

Dating only to the second quarter of the 20th century, their recent vintage has helped preserve many New Deal-era resources. However, with each passing year, the number of surviving resources dwindles. Fortunately, as this survey showed, many of the remaining New Deal-era resources in Kansas are well cared for and retain sufficient integrity to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Listing on the National Register will offer these resources the recognition necessary to cultivate creative preservation alternatives and to attract the funding necessary to ensure their long-term preservation. The National Register Multiple Property Submission for *New Deal Resources of Kansas* now provides a vehicle that will help local communities recognize, protect and preserve their resources from the New Deal for the benefit of future generations.

National Conference on the New Deal to Meet in Chicago

"The New Deal: Past, Present and Future" is the title of the program of the National New Deal Preservation Association scheduled for May 3 and 4, 2002, in Chicago. Conference sessions will be held at the Art Institute of Chicago and Roosevelt University.

The keynote speakers are Francis V. O'Connor, author of Art for the Millions, and Studs Terkel, author and participant in Federal Writers' and Theater Projects.

Among the topics included on the agenda are New Deal history, labor history, Social Security, Federal Theater Project, post office murals, oral history, curriculum development, mural tours, and many others.

For more information, contact Heather Becker of the Midwest Chapter of the National New Deal Preservation Association at hbec@earthlink.net.



Review Board Approves Seven Nominations for National Register

The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review met on December 1, 2001, at the old Potawatomi Baptist Mission, located on the grounds of the Kansas History Center in Topeka. The board selected J. Eric Engstrom, attorney from Wichita, to replace Mary Adair as the vice chair.

Adair, an archeologist at the University of Kansas Museum of Anthropology, was replaced on the board in November by John W. Hoopes, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Kansas. At the same time David Sachs, associate professor of architecture at Kansas State University was appointed as the board's architectural historian, replacing Pamela D. Kingsbury of Wichita. Board chairman Craig Crosswhite, attorney from Jetmore, was reappointed.

The board considered and approved seven nominations for the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination for the Amelia Earhart Historic District in Atchison was developed with the assistance of a federal Historic Preservation Fund grant from the Historic Preservation Office. The district is roughly bounded on the north by Atchison Street, on the east by North Terrace Street and the Missouri River bluffs, on the south by Commerce Street, and on the west by Third Street. This residential area, which has

Amelia Earhart Historic District

Atchison

Mundinger Hall

Winfield

The Whitesitt-Shirk Historic District

Pittsburg

The Merchants Bank of Ellis

Ellis

Hodgeman County Courthouse

Jetmore

The John Wright House

McPherson

The Devon Apartments

Topeka

resources dating from 1860, was nominated for its architectural significance as a group of late 19th and early 20th century residences. There are 39 contributing properties in the district, which enjoys a high degree of integrity.

Mundinger Hall, located at 6th Avenue and Gary Street on the former St. John's College campus in Winfield, was nominated for its historical associations with the college and for its architectural

significance as a Collegiate Gothic style building. The building, which was constructed in 1950-1951, is being rehabilitated as a tax project for low-to-moderate income housing.

The Whitesitt-Shirk Historic District in Pittsburg, located at 116 and 120 E. Lindburg, consists of two residences and two garages. The district was approved for the National Register because of its historical associations with Andrew Harmon Whitesitt and J. A. Garfield Shirk, early professors at what is now Pittsburg State University, and as an example of early 20th century residential architecture. The district represents the last vestige of the professors' rows that used to surround the campus.

The Merchants Bank of Ellis, 822 Washington Street, Ellis, was approved for its association with the growth and development of Ellis. Built in 1885, it housed the community's first bank.

The Hodgeman County Courthouse (shown above), 500 Main Street, Jetmore, was approved for addition to the Kansas County Courthouse Multiple Property Submission for its historical association with the growth and development of Hodgeman County and for its architectural significance as an eclectic example of the Second Renaissance Revival style.

Board Approves Seven Nominations

Continued from page 12

Built in 1929 at a time of countywide prosperity, the courthouse epitomized the pride and confidence of the local citizens.

The John Wright House, constructed in 1887 at 322 W. Marlin in McPherson, was nominated for its associations with John R. Wright, local entrepreneur and officeholder, and for its architectural significance as an example of the Queen Anne style.

The Devon Apartments at 800-808 Southwest 12th Street in Topeka was nominated for its association with the growth and development of Topeka. It is a unique example of a late 19th and early 20th century apartment complex that incorporates commercial and residential units. Originally constructed in 1887 and substantially remodeled in 1906, the brick building faces south across 12th Street to Holliday Park.

The review board will next meet at 9 a.m. on Saturday, February 23, 2002, in the Sheffel Room at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Street, Topeka. For information regarding that meeting and its agenda, interested individuals may call (785) 272-8681 Ext. 240.

Preservation Week 2002 Posters, Ideas Now Available

"The Spirit of Place" will be the theme for Preservation Week 2002, May 12-18. To receive the 2002 poster, contact the National Trust for Historic Preservation at (202) 588-6037.

For tips on planning and promoting Preservation Week activities in your community, visit the National Trust's website: www.nationaltrust.org/preservationweek.

Preservation Leadership Training

Preservation Leadership Training (PLT) is an intensive one-week experience tailored to the needs of state and local preservation organizations. PLT provides participatory learning experiences in leadership and organizational development techniques; stimulating educational sessions; and up-to-the-minute information on current preservation practices, issues, and action strategies.

The 2002 PLT is scheduled for Marshall, California, June 22-29. The application deadline is April 19, 2002. This training opportunity is designed for board members and staff of preservation

organizations and agencies and others who are in positions to influence preservation efforts in their communities.

For more information, contact the National Trust for Historic Preservation at (202) 588-6067 or plt@nthp.org.

Dodge City Granted CLG Status

Dodge City was recently accepted by the National Park Service as the newest Certified Local Government (CLG) in the state. As such, it joins Doniphan County and the cities of Abilene, Hutchinson, Kansas City, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Newton and North Newton, Salina, and Wichita.

To qualify for the program, a local government must enact an historic preservation ordinance and establish a qualified historic resources commission. Certification by the National Park Service helps foster preservation within local communities by involving their governments in activities such as approval of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and design review. No less than ten percent of the allocation provided to the state by the Historic Preservation Fund must be passed to CLGs.

Contact the Historic Preservation Office at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 240 for more information.

Norton Bone Bed

Continued from page 5

Archeologists have learned how to ascertain the season, usually to within a few weeks, of the time that a kill was made. This is done through study of the eruption and wear on teeth using control samples of known-age animals. Determining the number of animals and the composition of the herd (number of cows, calves, and bulls) is important because bison have variable economic potential by sex and age during different seasons.

Generally age can be estimated by examining the size of elements and their age, based on fusion of epiphyses (growth centers of bones). Mature male bison are significantly larger than females of the species. Also, the condition of both males and females changes dramatically during the year. In terms of fat and marrow quality, bulls are in relatively better condition during the late winter and spring, while cows tend to be in better shape in the early fall. Most adult bulls do not stay with the cow-calf herds all year, so composition and size of the herd at the time of the kill will influence the available resources and what butchering strategies will be used.

In conjunction with information on tool functions, lithic material sources, and stratigraphy, it is sometimes

possible to learn much about what happened in particular places in prehistory. Perhaps more importantly, however, we can gain insights into how these particular places fit into regional frameworks of prehistoric adaptations and evolutionary change of human systems and environments. To use information from bison bone beds effectively, it is critical that we have a wide range of controlled information on bison weathering and natural dispersal agents. We must not only distinguish between natural (carnivore gnawing, water transport, down-slope movements, and deterioration) and cultural (dismemberment of the carcasses, cut marks, and hammerstone impacts) modification of bones, but also determine the degree of weathering, the type of modification, and the number and sequence of agents involved.

These concerns form the basis for a continuing taphonomic research effort at several western Kansas locations. In this setting, it will be possible to monitor the natural weathering and dispersal of bison skeletons over a period of years. This task will provide a library of information, which, when used in conjunction with controlled experiments and archeological samples, will help us refine our approaches to interpreting the archeological record and develop better explanations for what happened in prehistory.

Take a Break from Your Routine!

Requirements for participation in the KATP field school are relatively few.

- Participants must be at least 10 years of age, and those younger than 14 must work with a parent or other sponsoring adult at all times. Participants between 14 and 18 years of age must be accompanied on the project by a legally responsible adult.
- Participants are encouraged to become members of the Kansas Anthropological Association or the Kansas State Historical Society, Inc. Membership may be obtained by submitting a membership application for either organization, both included in the registration packet.

A variety of membership options are available for KAA, including individual (\$22), family (\$25), and student (\$5). The \$5 membership is of a limited nature, enabling students to attend the field school and take classes, but not entitling them to receive KAA publications. All other members will receive four newsletters, *The Kansas Anthropologist* (the annual KAA journal), and six issues of *Kansas Preservation* during the year.

Membership categories for KSHS, Inc., include basic (\$30) and family (\$35). Among other benefits, members receive four issues each of the journal *Kansas History* and the magazine *Kansas Heritage*. Family members receive seven issues of the children's magazine, *Kansas Kaleidoscope*.

- A project fee is required of all partici-



pants to help cover the costs of running the field school. The fee for applicants who are members of the KAA or KSHS, Inc., is \$15 each if received by the May 3 advance registration date and \$25 each if received after May 3. The fee for non-members is \$75 each by May 3 and \$85 each after May 3. Fees should be submitted with completed registration forms. Participants are responsible for expenses of their own transportation to the project, lodging, and food. Suggestions for places to stay, camp, eat, and shop are included in the registration packet.

- Before taking part in field school activities, all participants must attend an orientation session addressing the goals of the program and archeological background of the excavation sites. If participants are new to the KATP, they must take the two-hour Principles of Archeology course. Members who have attended the

Principles lectures at previous KATP field schools are not required to repeat the session and may go directly to the field or lab after orientation.

- The training program is a serious scientific effort, and procedures and protocol must be followed at all times. Each participant is required to complete certain written records during the course of the day. These records become part of the permanent site file. All accumulated records and artifacts are stored by the KSHS in Topeka for future research and museum use.
- Participation in the program may be from a single day to the entire 16-day period. A scheduling form is included in the registration packet.
- Each participant should complete the health and medical summary included in the registration packet. These forms are confidential; they are used only in case of medical emergencies during the project and will be destroyed at the conclusion of the project.

Please use the coupon at the bottom of this page to request a registration packet. Applications for the 2002 KATP are due by May 3, 2002. Note that project fees increase after that date.

The Kansas State Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with disabilities or special needs. To make special arrangements, please call (785) 272-8681 Ext. 255.

To receive registration forms and detailed information about the 2002 KATP field school in Sheridan County, you must send this completed coupon to the Kansas Archeology Training Program, 6425 SW 6th Ave., Topeka, KS 66615-1099; or contact the public archeologist at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 255 or vwulfkuhle@ksks.org. To qualify for the lower advance registration fee, completed forms must be received by May 3, 2002.

Please send me a registration packet for the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school, June 1-16, 2002, in Sheridan County. Completed forms are due by May 3.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

Number of individuals in party _____

State Preservation Conference Slated for Abilene in May

The 2002 statewide historic preservation conference will be held in Abilene on May 9-11 at the Eisenhower Library. The theme of the conference is "Historic Preservation Inside and Out."

The conference will have many sessions dealing with historic interiors, adaptive reuse, and historic gardens. Also, a number of Abilene's historic sites will be available for tours as part of the conference.

The \$75 registration fee covers the tours, receptions, and three meals.

Continuing education credit may be obtained for AIA members.

Keynote speakers include William Seale, author and historian, and Patricia Gay, director of the Preservation Alliance of New Orleans.

A conference mailing will be sent out in February. For further information, contact Nancy Scholl at 2002 Kansas Preservation Conference, P. O. Box 402, Abilene, KS 67410 or scholl@access-one.com.

Happenings in Kansas

Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review

February 23, 2002
Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library
1515 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS

Heritage Trust Fund Grant

Application Deadline
March 1, 2002

Artifact Identification & Tour Day

April 6, 2002
Center for Historical Research
Kansas History Center
Topeka, KS

Kansas Archeology Week

April 7-13, 2002

Flint Hills Archaeological Conference

April 12-13, 2002
Manhattan, KS

Kansas Anthropological Association Annual Meeting

April 20, 2002
Kansas City, MO

KATP Field School Applications Due

May 3, 2002
See page 14.

"The New Deal: Past, Present and Future" Conference

May 3-4, 2002
Chicago, IL
See page 13.

State Preservation Conference

May 9-11, 2002
Eisenhower Library
Abilene, KS
See page 13.

National Preservation Week

May 12-18, 2002
See page 13.

Kansas Archeology Training Program Field School

June 1-16, 2002
Sheridan County, KS
See pages 1-3 & 14.

Cottonwood Ranch Cowboy Gathering

June 8-9, 2002
Cottonwood Ranch
Studley, KS

Preservation Leadership Training

June 22-29, 2002
Marshall, CA
See page 13.

For information about participating in the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school, see pages 1-3 and the inside back cover of this issue. Registration is due by May 3. Don't miss out!



KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cultural Resources Division
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